

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

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DRAFTED BY AF/W:BKIRKPATRICK
APPROVED BY AF:TSEELYE
D/HA:PDERIAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 153998

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS:PDIP, GV, US

SUBJECT: DISCUSSIONS WITH GUINEAN PRIME MINISTER
REF: STATE 148788

1. ONE JUNE 22 ASSISTANT SECRETARY DESIGNATE MOOSE MET
WITH GUINEAN PRIME MINISTER LANSANA BEAVOGUI. ACTING
ASSISTANT SECRETARY SEELYE, CO-ORDINATOR OF HUMAN RIGHTS

AND HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS DERIAN AND AMBASSADOR HARROP WERE
ALSO PRESENT.

2. THE GUINEANS EMPHASIZED AT THE OUTSET THAT SEKOU TOURE
HAD INSTRUCTED THEM TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT CARTER TO
DISCUSS RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND GUINEA. MOOSE
STATED THAT WE WANTED THE GUINEANS TO UNDERSTAND THE
IMPLICATIONS OF THE SOVIET INTELLIGENCE FLIGHTS FOR THE
U.S. HE NOTED THAT WE HAD DRAWN NO CONCLUSIONS FROM THE
HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLAINT ABOUT GUINEA BEFORE THE UN AND
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WISHED TO HEAR THE DELEGATION'S VIEWS ON HUMAN RIGHTS.
MOOSE STATED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO TIME TO PREPARE A
MEETING AT THE WHITE HOUSE AND SUGGESTED THAT THE DELEGATION
LEAVE THEIR LETTER FROM SEKOU TOURE TO PRESIDENT CARTER
WITH THE ACTING SECRETARY THE NEXT DAY. THE PRIME MINISTER
STATED THAT HIS GROUP REPRESENTED THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF THE
GOVERNMENT AND THE PARTY AND WAS EMPOWERED TO DISCUSS AND

DECIDE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES. HE NOTED THAT GUINEA COULD TERMINATE THE SOVIET FLIGHTS. HE ADDED THAT THE DELEGATION COULD HEAR "TECHNICAL EXPERTS" ON SOVIET FLIGHTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS BUT WOULD DISCUSS THE ISSUES WITH THE ACTING SECRETARY THE NEXT DAY AND LATER ON AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS. ONLY AT THAT LEVEL COULD THE GUINEANS EXPLAIN HOW THE U.S. COULD INTERVENE TO STOP THE SOVIET FLIGHTS. MOOSE STATED THAT THE DELEGATION'S VIEWS ON IMPORTANT ISSUES WOULD BE FULLY CONVEYED TO THE PRESIDENT AND THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD ACT ON HIS BEHALF.

3. DERIAN NOTED THAT OUR HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN THE UNITED STATES WAS NOT PERFECT BUT WE DO STRIVE TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE. SHE SAID THAT WE TRIED IN OUR RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES TO EXPLAIN OUR HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS AND TO INCORPORATE OUR HIGHEST IDEALS INTO OUR FOREIGN POLICY. WE ARE GREATLY TROUBLED WHEN OUR FRIENDS ARE ATTACKED FOR HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AND WOULD LIKE TO HELP. WE HAVE NO INTENTION, OR STANDING, TO DICTATE BUT WANT TO EXPLAIN OUR POLICY. WE RESPECT GUINEA'S INDEPENDENCE. DERIAN WENT ON TO COVER THE THREE MAIN AREAS OF HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERN: PROTECTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL, SOCIAL WELFARE OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE FREE EXPRESSION OF IDEAS IN SOCIETY. WITH REGARD TO GUINEA'S SPECIFIC PROBLEMS SHE NOTED CONCERN ABOUT POLITICAL

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PRISONERS. SHE INDICATED THAT THEIR FAMILIES SUFFERED

BECAUSE THEY DID NOT KNOW PLACE OF DETENTION OR WHAT WOULD BECOME OF THEM. SHE STATED SHE UNDERSTOOD THAT INTERNATIONAL CRITICISM WAS LIKE A PERSONAL INSULT AND THAT WE WANTED TO HEAR GUINEA'S REASONS FOR HAVING DETAINED SUCH LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE. SHE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT PRESIDENT TOURE'S HIGH IDEALS AND MORALITY WOULD CAUSE HIM TO EXTEND COMPASSION TO THESE PRISONERS. SHE ALSO STATED THAT WE WERE GREATLY CONCERNED ABOUT STORIES OF TORTURE. SHE SAID THAT TORTURE WAS COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE IN THE LONG RUN AND THAT HUMAN BEINGS SHOULD NOT DO SUCH THINGS TO EACH OTHER.

4. THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE DELEGATIONS RESPONDED FAVORABLY TO DERIAN'S COMMENTS AND STATED THAT GUINEA SUPPORTED HUMAN RIGHTS. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE U.S. DID NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION IN GUINEA AND THAT GUINEA'S POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS WOULD BE EXPLAINED IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ACTING SECRETARY THE NEXT DAY. DERIAN STATED THAT A BASIS HAD BEEN LAID FOR THE NEXT DAY'S DISCUSSIONS. SHE ADDED THAT THE PRESIDENT, THE

CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER WERE ALL CONCERNED ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS. SHE STATED THAT HUMAN RIGHTS WAS A DISCRETE OBJECTIVE WHICH WAS NOT A PART OF OTHER OBJECTIVES.

5. COMMANDER SMITH OF INR BRIEFED THE DELEGATION ON TECHNICAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOVIET INTELLIGENCE FLIGHTS OUT OF CONAKRY. AMBASSADOR SEELYE GAVE AN OVERVIEW OF OUR POLICIES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. THE PRIME MINISTER ACKNOWLEDGED OUR EFFORTS ON THE PROBLEMS OF

AFRICA AND NOTED THAT GUINEA WAS HAPPY THAT VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE SUPPORTED CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA IN HIS TALKS WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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PRIME MINISTER VORSTER. HE ALSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION

FOR THE STATEMENTS OF AMBASSADOR YOUNG IN HIS TRAVELS TO AFRICA. HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE PRESENTATIONS BY COMMANDER SMITH AND CO-ORDINATOR OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS DERIAN AND STATED THAT HE WOULD DISCUSS THE ISSUES THE NEXT DAY WITH THE ACTING SECRETARY. CHRISTOPHER

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